

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

The amendments and arguments set forth herein are made in response to the Examiner's new rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed on October 1, 2004. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-14 are pending in the application, with 1, 3, 6, 8, and 11-14 being the independent claims. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. The amendments and arguments set forth herein place this application in condition for allowance and therefore should be entered.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Examiner has allowed claims 1, 2, and 8-14.

Telephone Conversation with Examiner

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Lowe for his time in a telephone conversation on November 11, 2004. The discussion with the Examiner Lowe helped clarify the rejections. The above amendments have been made in accordance with some of Examiner Lowe's suggestions.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 3-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese document JP 58-30851 ("the '851 document").

Claim 3 has been amended to include "a first guide hole located below the first boom support portion; [and] a second guide hole, separate from said first guide hole, located below the second boom support portion[.]" The '851 document does not disclose a first guide hole located below a first boom support portion and a second guide hole located below a second boom support portion. Claim 3 is allowable over the '851 document for at least this reason.

Claims 4 and 5 depend from and add additional features to claim 3 and are allowable for at least the same reason set forth above with respect to claim 3.

Claim 6 has been amended to include "a reinforcement member being *disposed within the boom* and plastered on a joint portion between the main body and the supported portion of the boom" (emphasis added). The '851 document does not disclose a reinforcement member disposed within a boom. Claim 6 is allowable over the '851 document for at least this reason.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,232,330. Claim 7 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 1, thereby adding features to claim 1. Claim 7 is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Conclusion

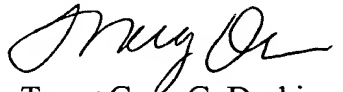
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for

allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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